

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

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LIMDIS

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:ETRD, YU

SUBJECT: YUGOSLAV INTEREST IN TRADE REFORM ACT

REF: BELGRADE 5321, STATE 226810

1. INFORMATION CONTAINED STATE 226810 WILL CONSTITUTE BEST AVAILABLE SUMMARY UNTIL SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE ISSUES REPORT.

2. HOUSE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE REPORT ON TRA STATES THAT THE TERM QTE ARTICLE UNQTE WILL IN GENERAL REFER TO THE FIVE-DIGIT TARIFF ITEM NUMBERS OF THE TARIFF SCHEDULES OF THE UNITED STATES. SINCE THE QUESTION OF HOW QTE ARTICLE UNQTE IS TO BE DEFINED HAS NOT BEEN RAISED BY THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE, WE ANTICIPATE THAT THE \$25 MILLION CEILING WILL APPLY TO INDIVIDUAL CUSTOMS ITEMS

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(5-DIGIT ITEMS).

3. THE ONLY AMENDMENT APPROVED BY THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE TO TITLE IV THAT WOULD AFFECT YUGOSLAVIA IS THE APPLICABILITY OF THE SPECIAL MARKET DISRUPTION PROVISIONS TO PRODUCTS OF ALL COMMUNIST COUNTRIES RATHER THAN COUNTRIES WHOSE PRODUCTS RECEIVE NONDISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT PURSUANT TO TITLE IV, AS IN THE HOUSE BILL. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE COMMITTEE HAS ALSO APPROVED CHANGES IN THIS SECTION OF TITLE IV THAT WOULD (A) ALTER THE

DEFINITION OF MARKET DISRUPTION TO PROVIDE MORE EASILY SATISFIED CRITERIA; (B) PROVIDE FOR EMERGENCY ACTION BY THE PRESIDENT PENDING A DETERMINATION BY THE TARIFF COMMISSION; AND (C) RULE OUT THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE LESS STRINGENT CRITERIA UNDER THIS SECTION FOR ACTION WITH RESPECT TO IMPORTS FROM COMMUNIST COUNTRIES COULD BE APPLIED TO EXCLUDE SUCH IMPORTS FROM NON-COMMUNIST COUNTRIES AS WELL.

4. WE HAVE THUS FAR BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL IN SEEKING A CHANGE THAT WOULD EXCLUDE YUGOSLAVIA FROM THE APPLICA-

BILITY OF THE MARKET DISRUPTION PROVISIONS IN THE FINANCE COMMITTEE'S BILL. NEVERTHELESS WE ARE CONTINUING TO SEEK LANGUAGE THAT WOULD EXCLUDE YUGOSLAVIA BY USING THE TERM QTE NONMARKET ECONOMY COUNTRY UNQTE RATHER THAN QTE COMMUNIST COUNTRY. UNQTE INGERSOLL

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